Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 185382
ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-05 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 FEA-01
EB-08 NRC-07 OES-07 ERDA-07 /127 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/GC:MMAZEAU
APPROVED BY ACDA/MA:TDDAVIES
ACDA/GC:PSCHRAG
ACDA/MA:LEFINCH
NSC:BHUBERMAN
PM:EIFFT
OSD/ISA:RSQUIRE
JCS:FMURRAY
CIA:TFROSCHER
ERDA:RDUFF S/S-O;AWOTTO
----------014691 070212Z /13
R 061543Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 185382

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJECT: TTBT/PNET RATIFICATION HEARINGS

SUMMARY: ON JULY 28, 1977, SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COM-
MITTEE COMMENCED HEARINGS ON THE TREATY ON THE LIMITATION
OF UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS (TTBT) AND THE TREATY
ON UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES
(PNET). ADMINISTRATION WITNESSES WERE PHILIP C. HABIB,
UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS, AND PAUL C.
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PAGE 02 STATE 185382

WARNKE, DIRECTOR OF THE U.S. ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT
AGENCY. TESTIMONY WAS WELL RECEIVED. DAVID E. MCGIFFERT,
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
AFFAIRS AND VICE ADMIRAL PATRICK J. HANNIFIN, JOINT CHIEFS
OF STAFF, TESTIFIED ON AUGUST 3. THE HEARINGS WILL CON-
TINUE ON SEPTEMBER 9 AND WILL BE CONCLUDED ON SEPTEMBER 15.
END SUMMARY.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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1. SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE COMMENCED HEARINGS ON JULY 28, 1977, TO CONSIDER THE TTBT AND THE PNET SUBMITTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO THE SENATE FOR ITS ADVICE AND CONSENT TO RATIFICATION. HEARING WAS CHAIRED BY SENATOR CLAIBORNE PELL. ALSO PRESENT WERE SENATORS CASE, CHURCH, GLENN AND PERCY.

2. UNDER SECRETARY HABIB CITED THE COMPLETION OF THE TWO TREATIES AS EVIDENCE THAT "WITH PATIENCE AND MUTUAL GOOD WILL, EVEN COMPLEX PROBLEMS TOUCHING ON NATIONAL SECURITY CONCERNS CAN BE WORKED OUT." HABIB DESCRIBED THE TWO TREATIES AS USEFUL STEPS IN THE DIRECTION OF AN ADEQUATELY VERIFIABLE COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN. HE ELABORATED ON THE ROLE OF THE TWO TREATIES IN NATIONAL POLICY AND WARNED AGAINST THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT RATIFYING THE TREATIES, STATING THAT "IF WE WERE NOT TO RATIFY THESE TWO TREATIES, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE TO OUR DISADVANTAGE. OTHER COUNTRIES ARE LOOKING TO US AND THE SOVIET UNION TO END OUR TESTING. WHILE THESE TREATIES WILL NOT COMPLETELY END THAT TESTING, THEY DO REPRESENT GENUINE PROGRESS TOWARD THAT GOAL. IF WE WERE NOT TO RATIFY THEM, IT COULD CAUSE CONCERN AS TO OUR WILLINGNESS TO SEEK A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN. LIKEWISE WERE WE NOT TO FULFILL THIS UNDERTAKING THAT WE HAVE NEGOTIATED, IT COULD HINDER OUR EFFORTS TO PRESS FORWARD WITH NEGOTIATIONS ON FURTHER ARMS LIMITATIONS. FINALLY, WERE WE NOT TO RATIFY THE TREATY, IT IS UNCLASSIFIED

POSSIBLE THAT HIGHER YIELD TESTS COULD RESUME, A RESULT WHICH WOULD BE DIRECTLY CONTRARY TO THE ESSENCE OF THE PRESIDENT'S DETERMINATION TO ACHIEVE THE EARLY AND TOTAL CESSATION OF NUCLEAR TESTING."

3. ACDA DIRECTOR WARNKE CONFINED HIS REMARKS TO THE TOPIC OF "HOW THE ADMINISTRATION'S REQUEST FOR PROMPT SENATE ACTION ON THESE TWO TREATIES RELATED TO HIS GOAL OF ACHIEVING A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN ON NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS AT AN EARLY DATE." STATING THAT THERE WERE SEVERAL REASONS WHY THE ADMINISTRATION ATTACHES IMPORTANCE TO BRINGING THESE TWO TREATIES INTO FORCE, HE CITED THESE PRINCIPAL REASONS: (1) THE CURRENT TREATIES, BY CONSTRAINING THE DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING OF NEW HIGH-YIELD WARHEADS AND BOMBS, HAVE A MODERATING EFFECT IN THEIR OWN RIGHT; (2) THEY ARE A "HEDGE" AGAINST THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN WILL TAKE LONGER THAN ANTICIPATED; (3) SINCE A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN OF CONTINUING DURATION MAY REQUIRE ADHERENCE BY ALL NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES, "THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THESE TREATIES WOULD THUS PROVIDE VALUABLE INSURANCE AGAINST RESUMPTION OF HIGHER YIELD NUCLEAR TESTING"; (4) THE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

TREATIES ESTABLISH SEVERAL PRECEDENTS, FOR INSTANCE, THE FURNISHING OF DATA TO ASSIST THE OTHER PARTY'S NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS OF VERIFICATION AND, EVEN MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE PRINCIPLE OF ON-SITE VERIFICATION; (5) PROMPT RATIFICATION WILL CREATE "A MORE PROMISING CLIMATE FOR THE CURRENT COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN NEGOTIATIONS."

4. THE ATMOSPHERE AT THE HEARING WAS POSITIVE. THE TESTIMONY AND THE RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS WERE WELL RECEIVED. SEVERAL SENATORS VOICED THEIR DISAPPOINTMENT ABOUT THE HIGH THRESHOLD, WHILE OTHERS EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT RATIFICATION OF T;E PNET MIGHT SET A PRECEDENT FOR PERMITTING EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES UNDER A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN REGIME. WARNKE ADVISED THE COMMITTEE
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THAT IT WAS THE U.S. OBJECTIVE TO NEGOTIATE A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN THAT WOULD END ALL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS.

5. ON AUGUST 3, DAVID E. MCGIFFERT, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS, TESTIFIED THAT HE AGREED WITH THE CONCLUSIONS OF UNDER SECRETARY HABIB AND ACDA DIRECTOR WARNKE THAT THE TREATIES ARE VALUABLE IN THEIR OWN RIGHT AND MAY AID IN OBTAINING A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN. MCGIFFERT EMPHASIZED SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF THE TREATIES IN HIS PRESENTATION. HE INDICATED HIS BELIEF THAT U.S. VERIFICATION MEANS ARE AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE ADEQUATE TO PROTECT U.S. SECURITY INTERESTS, AND CONCLUDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BELIEVES RATIFICATION OF THE TREATIES WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY. VICE ADMIRAL PATRICK J. HANNIFIN, TESTIFYING FOR THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, STATED THAT THE JCS SUPPORT RATIFICATION, NOTING THAT THESE TREATIES ARE PART OF THE TREND TOWARD RESTRICTING THE COMPETITION IN NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND C;ARACTERIZING THEM AS EQUITABLE.

6. EMBASSY MOSCOW REQUESTED TO MAKE THIS ACCOUNT OF TTBT/PNET HEARINGS TO DATE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS SOVIET CTB DELEGATION. CHRISTOPHER

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

PAGE 01 STATE 185382
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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66011
DRAFTED BY: ACDA/MA:LEFINCH
APPROVED BY: ACDA/MA:LEFINCH
----------045173 090903Z /14
R 090550Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO RUFHNA/USMISSION NATO 0000
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 185382

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION GENEVA INFO MOSCOW FROM STATE AUG 06:

QUOTE UNCLAS STATE 185382

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJECT: TTBT/PNET RATIFICATION HEARINGS

SUMMARY: ON JULY 28, 1977, SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE COMMENCED HEARINGS ON THE TREATY ON THE LIMITATION OF UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS (TTBT) AND THE TREATY ON UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES (PNET). ADMINISTRATION WITNESSES WERE PHILIP C. HABIB, UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS, AND PAUL C. WARNKE, DIRECTOR OF THE U.S. ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGENCY. TESTIMONY WAS WELL RECEIVED. DAVID E. MCGIFFERT, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS AND VICE ADMIRAL PATRICK J. HANNIFIN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, TESTIFIED ON AUGUST 3. THE HEARINGS WILL CONUNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 185382

TINUE ON SEPTEMBER 9 AND WILL BE CONCLUDED ON SEPTEMBER 15. END SUMMARY.
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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

2. UNDER SECRETARY HABIB CITED THE COMPLETION OF THE TWO TREATIES AS EVIDENCE THAT "WITH PATIENCE AND MUTUAL GOOD WILL, EVEN COMPLEX PROBLEMS TOUCHING ON NATIONAL SECURITY CONCERNS CAN BE WORKED OUT." HABIB DESCRIBED THE TWO TREATIES AS USEFUL STEPS IN THE DIRECTION OF AN ADEQUATELY VERIFIABLE COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN. HE ELABORATED ON THE ROLE OF THE TWO TREATIES IN NATIONAL POLICY AND WARNED AGAINST THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT RATIFYING THE TREATIES, STATING THAT "IF WE WERE NOT TO RATIFY THESE TWO TREATIES, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE TO OUR DISADVANTAGE. OTHER COUNTRIES ARE LOOKING TO US AND THE SOVIET UNION TO END OUR TESTING. WHILE THESE TREATIES WILL NOT COMPLETELY END THAT TESTING, THEY DO REPRESENT GENUINE PROGRESS TOWARD THAT GOAL. IF WE WERE NOT TO RATIFY THEM, IT COULD CAUSE CONCERN AS TO OUR WILLINGNESS TO SEEK A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN. LIKEWISE WERE WE NOT TO FULFILL THIS UNDERTAKING THAT WE HAVE NEGOTIATED, IT COULD HINDER OUR EFFORTS TO PRESS FORWARD WITH NEGOTIATIONS ON FURTHER ARMS LIMITATIONS. FINALLY, WERE WE NOT TO RATIFY THE TREATY, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT HIGHER YIELD TESTS COULD RESUME, A RESULT WHICH WOULD BE DIRECTLY CONTRARY TO THE ESSENCE OF THE PRESIDENT'S DETERMINATION TO ACHIEVE THE EARLY AND TOTAL CESSATION OF NUCLEAR TESTING."

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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SAS ID: 1683588
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TTBT/PNET RATIFICATION HEARINGS SUMMARY: ON JULY 28, 1977, SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COM- MITTEE COMMENCED HEARINGS ON THE TREATY ON THE LIM
TAGS: PARM, MNUC, PINS, CCD
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eaea5160-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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